

**October 10, 2003**

**Habilitation Services Program (HSP) Transfer Progress Report**

**Legislation:**

- AB 747 (Mathews), the bill which contained the specific amendment to extend for an additional two years the existing one year suspension on Work Activity Program (WAP) rate adjustments has been signed into law, Chapter number 659. This means rate adjustments for WAPs would not occur before 7/1/06.

**Rulemaking (Regulations):**

- Final draft of the HSP regulations was e-mailed out to stakeholders on 9/19/03. On 9/30/03, a stakeholders meeting took place, as scheduled, with the DDS and DOR staff to review and discuss the regulations. At the request of stakeholders, DDS agreed to extend the comment period on the proposed habilitation regulations to 10/8/03.
- During 9/30/03 meeting, stakeholder's questions focused on issues related to implementation issues, e.g., availability of caseload and vendor lists for regional centers.
- To date, DDS has received a limited number of e-mail comments on the regulations. Comments have been limited to issues, such as, monitoring differences between WAPs and SEPs; organization of the vendorization requirements; clarification of terms; and vendorization workload concerns. It should be noted that the emergency rule making process does not allow for public comment prior to implementation of the regulations. This is necessary for amending the waiver. This process allows for public input before the regulations become final.

**Training Curriculum:**

- The HSP training curriculum outline continues to be updated. Dates, training staff, participant invitees and general locations for training have been tentatively agreed to between DDS and DOR. The outline includes training topics on vendorization, CARF, provider QA & TA, fiscal monitoring, non-work activity plans, monitoring of the amount and variety of work, attendance, productivity, time study, Dept. of Labor requirements, and all articles in DDS habilitation regulations.
- DDS will seek stakeholder participation in the proposed training topics and sessions.
- At the 9/30/03 meeting, DDS and DOR staff presented stakeholders an overview of the above timeline and training activities. Following a review and discussion period on the proposed implementation plan, DDS agreed to e-mail copies of the proposed planning document to the stakeholders.

- **Implementation Activities:**

- DDS and DOR management continue monthly HSP planning meetings.
- A final Memorandum of Understanding for the purpose of coordinating assistance from DOR staff prior to and during the HSP implementation phase is under review.
- Staff considered necessary for the administration of Habilitation program has been requested through the normal budgetary process.